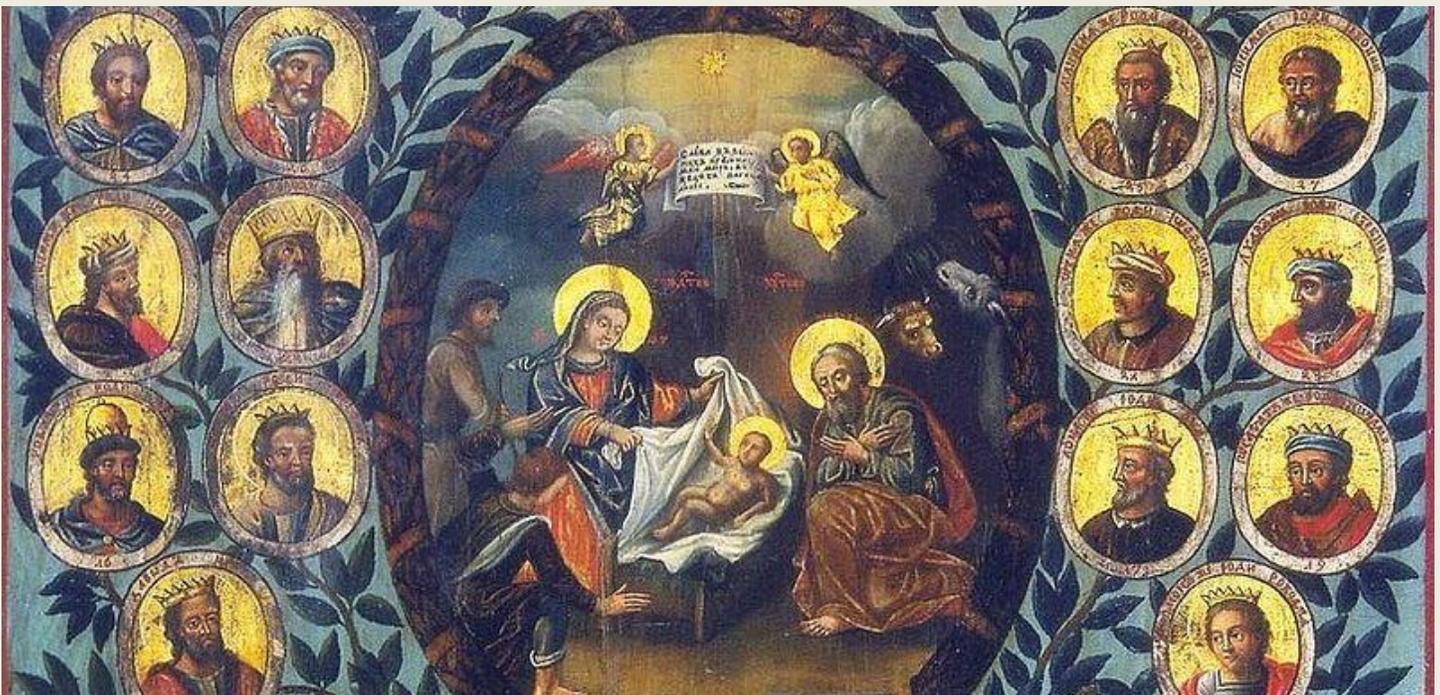




Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

950 North Grace Street, Lombard, IL 60148
Tel: 630-932-9640 / Fax: 630-932-9463
www.ollchicago.org

Season of Glorious Birth Genealogy of Jesus December 20, 2020



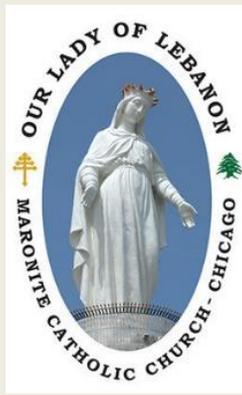
God in all humility, took on human flesh like us and became man. The birth of Jesus was the fulfilment of a prophecy and that is a major theme of the Maronite liturgy this Sunday. In the opening prayer we pray:

“Fill our hearts with the faith of those holy ones who awaited your coming throughout all generations.”

In the prayer of forgiveness, we hear:

“By his birth, he fulfilled the revelation of the Holy Spirit, spoken by the prophets.”

The genealogy reminds us that the promises of old have now been fulfilled and we are the inheritors of gifts of those promises. Jesus is the rightful king and part of God’s plan of salvation. Jesus lives today, his throne can never be taken.



Subject: Reopening guidelines for Our Lady of Lebanon Church amid COVID-19

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I pray that you and your loved ones are enjoying good health and continuing to join us in prayer via the Facebook Livestream. I look forward to being able to pray together again.

- Our Lady of Lebanon Church has developed a reopening plan under the guidance of the Diocese of Joliet and the State of Illinois.
- These guidelines have been created to keep everyone safe and healthy, while maintaining due respect and reverence for the sacraments and liturgical norms of our faith. These instructions will be under evaluation and are subject to change.
- Although public Masses are resuming, please note, as per our bishop, a dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass will continue until further notice.
- We will continue to livestream Mass and prayers on our Facebook page: **Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church.**

Mass will be celebrated at:

- **9:30 am and**
- **11:30 am.**
- Because of social distancing requirements, seating will be limited to every other pew with social distancing between those attending. We will have an **online reservation system at our website ollchicago.org** where you can reserve a seat at Mass. **Unreserved attendance will be turned away.**
- Please instruct those who do not have access to a computer to call the Parish Office at **630-932-9640**. The office is checking messages daily.

The following guidelines have been put in place for the safety of all attending:

- If you are sick or vulnerable to infection, or care for someone who is vulnerable, we ask that you please do not attend.
- **Plan to arrive no later than 15 minutes prior to the Mass you have signed up for.**
- All attendees must wear face masks inside the Church premises **AT ALL TIMES.**

- To ensure the safety and health of all our parish family and friends, we ask that you **do not congregate or meet up before or after Mass.**
- Please comply with the instructions of the ushers.
- **PLEASE NOTE** - you will be escorted to a pew.
- All attendees must use hand sanitizers, which is available at the entrance.
- All attendees will have their temperature taken before entering Church.
- Collection baskets will be placed at the main entrance of the Church. However, we encourage online donations at our website.
- The crying room and the Shaker Hall will be temporarily closed. Devotional candles will not be available. Please do not bring any strollers into the Church.
- To avoid cross contamination, Mass books will not be provided.
- You will notice that there are no Holy Water fonts. However, you should make the sign of the Cross when entering the Church.
- Instructions for receiving Holy Communion will be announced during each Mass. Please note that the consecrated Host will be distributed **IN THE HAND ONLY until further notice.**
- The Church will be sanitized and disinfected after each Mass.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation as we come together for Mass with measures in place to minimize risks during this time. It is good to note that we do this together as we learn from the Bible that we indeed are “our brother’s keeper” (**Genesis 4:9**). Our collective patience, willingness to help, and the care we take to reopen are demonstrations of our strong faith, unity and love for one another.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 713-972-2990. May God protect you and grant you His grace during this difficult time.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Fr. Pierre El Khoury". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Father Pierre El Khoury MLM
Pastor

Readings for Sunday December 20

الْمَرْمُورُ التَّاسِعُ وَالثَّمَانُونَ
أَقْسَمَ الرَّبُّ لِدَاوُدَ: مِنْ نَسْلِكَ أُقِيمُ مَسِيحِي.
بِمَرَاجِمِ الرَّبِّ أُغْنِي وَإِلَى جِيلٍ فَجِيلٍ أُعْلِنُ بِقَمِي أَمَانَتِكَ.
تُشِيدُ السَّمَاوَاتُ بِعَجَائِبِكَ. وَأَنْتَ أَسَّسْتَ الدُّنْيَا وَمَا فِيهَا.
عَهْدًا قَطَعْتَ لِإِبْرَاهِيمَ مُخْتَارَكَ وَلِدَاوُدَ عَبْدَكَ أَقْسَمْتَ.
بِدُهْنِ قُدْسِكَ مَسَحْتَهُ مَسِيحًا.
جَعَلْتَ نَسْلَهُ أَبَدِيًّا وَعَرْشُهُ كَالشَّمْسِ يَكُونُ ثَابِتًا.
جَعَلْتَهُ بَكْرًا فَوْقَ مُلُوكِ الْأَرْضِ عَلِيًّا.
طُوبَى لِلشَّعْبِ الَّذِي يُسَبِّحُكَ. فَبِنُورِ وَجْهِكَ يَسِيرُونَ.
لَأَنَّكَ أَنْتَ فَخْرُنَا، وَقُوَّتُنَا، وَعِزَّتُنَا. أَنْتَ مَلِكُنَا وَتُرْسُنَا.
أَنْتَ أَبِي وَإِلَهِي وَصَخْرَةُ خَلَاصِي. تَبَارَكَ الرَّبُّ لِلأَبَدِ. آمِينَ.
أَقْسَمَ الرَّبُّ لِدَاوُدَ: مِنْ نَسْلِكَ أُقِيمُ مَسِيحِي. هَلِّلُويَا!

Romans 1:1 -7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh but established as Son of God in power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 1:1-17

An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Aminadab, and Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of King David. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah. So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations.

Mass Intentions for SUNDAY DECEMBER 20, 2020

09:30 AM

Mona Zahrah Kfouri *(The Shaker Family)*

Emil Haddad, Sr. *(The Shaker Family)*

11:30 AM

Warde yonan *(Mother of Esther Karam)*

Farida Daniel *(Madeleine Malek)*

Antoine and Layla Rami *(Subdecon George and Simeone Romanos)*

Schedules	Sunday 9:30 am	Sunday 11:30 am
Readers	Margaret Budz	Subdeacon George Romanos
Ushers	Nabil Zahra Sami Tabet Eddy Moinnes	Ed Kneip, William Harb Henry Abboud, Elie Masud Naji Abiad, John Albani

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Mail your contribution to:

Our Lady Of Lebanon Church

950 N Grace street, Lombard, IL, 60148

or

Donate online: www.ollchicago.org

Sunday December 13

Church Collection: \$1,930

By Mail: \$1,450

Online: \$250

**Thank you for your continued financial support
and generosity and prayers as our country and
people get through this most difficult situation.**

May God keep you safe and watch over you.

Let Us Remember

our Beloved Ones who passed into Heaven during the **Month of DECEMBER**

Farida Daniel - Chukri Daniel - George Antoon - Sophia Abraham - Genevieve Abraham -
Virginia Nimer - Helen Botwin - Emil Haddad, Sr. - Teresa Ensley - Sophie Fahel - Samir
Rizkallah - Karim El Tenn - Jamile Maalouf - Hattie Yorecki - Emil Aya - Michelle York - George
Bohakel - Jeannette Youssef - Eugene D. Bodan - Helen Cordell - George L. George - Safa
Ghandour - Rose Halowi – George Hanna - Gerges Hattar - Michael Ibrahim - Anton Kassis -
Patrick O’Shea – Genevieve Salem - Nicola Shahwan - Alice C. Thomas